

**Third Annual Heidi Memorial
Airhead Tech Day
Dec 5, 2009**

Kathy and Danno Emerson#456 got their announcement in early and planned well for this Airhead Tech Day in Melbourne, FL. They have seen their quiet abode invaded by the noisy Airheads of Florida at least twice before but appear to enjoy it and hence continue to encourage attendance. Kathy controlled the food and did so with her normal aplomb. Super feed and I think some was left after the feeding frenzy so more than enough vittles.

She told us that she had put Danno in charge of the weather and, very unlike his normal performance, he let us all down. It had rained off and on for about three days before the Tech Day but looked like it would be dry when I left Titusville. Wrong, at the city limits of Melbourne it dumped on me. I found a Dunkin Donuts, had a treat and a cup of coffee and waited for it to pass over. I felt really proud for having braved the downpour when I rode up Danno's driveway but quickly learned I hadn't seen anything. Our distance rider, Bill Botkin, rode from Yulee and had been in rain all the way from Jacksonville. That's about 200 miles. Those coming from the south such as Pompano Beach (150 miles) or West Palm (120miles) had a wet go of it also. So, I quickly shut my mouth about how wet I was.

The rain really did put a damper on participation and our attendance was way below last year's Heidi Memorial. Only ten people showed up if we count Gator Balough, the Florida Airmarshall, who rode all of a mile to Danno's and then started to complain about the weather. Oh well, we all have our cross to bear I guess. Everybody, with the exception of Gator, appeared to have a great time and we actually got a few things worked out on some of the bikes.

I had been lucky enough to find a speedo with the correct W# for Danno's R100RS and I watched him as he swapped it out for the incorrect one he had on the bike. It might keep his blood pressure down if he has an idea of his actual speed. Bill Botkin was having a problem with the indicator panel on his bike. We removed the motometer pod and ended up fixing that issue but, when he fired it up to head back north, he had lost his turn signals. Probably due to this, he also left his rain boots. Danno helped me finally get my carbs leaned out on my 83 ST. Definitely rode better on the way home than going down. The final wrenching of any note was that Wendell Waldron from Orlando replaced the points in his R75/7. All told, not a bad bit of work for a rainy day and limited attendance. Think we will have to declare it a success.

Riding home on my newly powerful 800cc machine built more than 27 years ago I was once again grateful that I had discovered the Airheads and had been given the opportunity to spend time with them. Now if Danno would just do something about the weather.

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